

MARVEL
COMICS

1ST ISSUE! A LEGEND REBORN!

**A
MUTANT
MILE-
STONE
!**

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UK 80p

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**50
YEARS**



**BY
CAPTAIN AMERICA**

1941 - 1991

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X-MEN



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MARVEL
COMICS

X-MEN



STAN LEE
PROUDLY
PRESENTS
THE DAWN
OF A NEW
ERA!

NEAR-EARTH SPACE,
ON THE SHADOW SIDE OF
THE TERMINATOR, RACING
FROM DAY TO NIGHT...

WE'RE
HIT!

A WARNING
SHOT, JUST
TO LET US
KNOW THEY
MEAN
BUSINESS.

WE GET
THE BLOODY
MESSAGE!
SO LET'S DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT IT,
OKAY?!

WHERE'S
ASTEROID
M?

OUR ENTIRE
PLAN WAS
BASED ON
FINDING THAT
ORBITING HUNK
OF ROCK--

--YOU SWORE
YOUR PRECIOUS
SENSORS COULD
DO THE JOB--

--SO WHERE
THE DEVIL
IS IT?!

I DON'T
KNOW!

ALL I'M
SCANNING IS
EMPTY
SPACE!

ABSOLUTELY
SPECTACULAR!

I JUST
NAILED ONE
OF THE
PURSUIT
SHIPS.

KILL THE
OTHER
TWO... THEN
WE'LL
CHEER.

CHEYENNE
COMMAND
FROM
STRIKE-
EAGLE
LEADER
DELGADO

...ONE CRAFT LOST...

...FUGITIVES
REFUSING TO
ANSWER HAILS,
MUCH LESS
SURRENDER.

REQUESTING
RELEASE TO
RETURN FIRE.

STUFF
PERMISSION,
HARRY

JUST
FRY THE
SWINE.

A HUNDRED-
FIFTY MILES
ABOVE MOTHER
RUSSIA, NANCE?

REAL EASY
WAY TO
START A
WORLD
WAR.

SKIPPER,
I'M RECORDING
MASSIVE SPIKES,
ALL ACROSS THE
ELECTROMAGNETIC
SPECTRUM! LOSING
COHERENCE ON
ALL INTERNAL
ELECTRONICS!

SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING
UP AHEAD!

THAT
FLASH OF
LIGHT!

I AM
MAGNETO!

THIS
IS MY
HOME.

I AM RAPIDLY
LOSING INTEREST
IN WHATEVER YOU
CHOOSE TO DO ON
THE EARTH'S SURFACE--
DESPOIL THE ENVIRONMENT,
SLAUGHTER YOURSELVES
TO THE LAST CHILD,
I NO LONGER
CARE--

-- BUT I
REFUSE TO
ALLOW YOU
TO EXPORT
YOUR PENCHANT
FOR VIOLENCE
TO MY VERY
DOORSTEP

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By **CHRIS CLAREMONT** and **JIM LEE**
WRITER • CO-PLOTTERS • PENCILER

PRINTED IN CANADA

YOU
CAN'T
JUST
LEAVE
US TO
DIE!

DID I GIVE THAT
IMPRESSION? SUCH
IS NOT MY INTENTION,
SINCE IT WOULD
MERELY PROVOKE
INEVITABLE EVER-
ESCALATING
RETALIATION.

I SHALL
SIMPLY
RETURN YOU
ALL TO THE
SURFACE, TO
CONVEY MY
WARNING THAT
NEXT TIME, I
SHALL NOT BE
SO CHARITABLE.

No!

I BEG
YOUR
PARDON?

YOU
CAN'T SEND
US BACK,
IT'S YOU
WE CAME TO
FIND!

LORD
MAGNETO,
WE'RE
MUTANTS
LIKE YOU!

WE'VE
COME TO
SERVE, TO
PLEDGE OUR
LIVES TO YOUR
GLORIOUS
CAUSE!

THOSE DAYS
ARE DONE,
WOMAN. THAT
MAN IS
NO MORE.

IN MERCY'S
NAME, YOUR
PEOPLE NEED
YOU, NOW MORE
THAN EVER!

CAN YOU
ABANDON
THEM? CAN
YOU DENY
YOUR
DESTINY?!

STAR CITY
COSMODROME,
BAIKONUR--

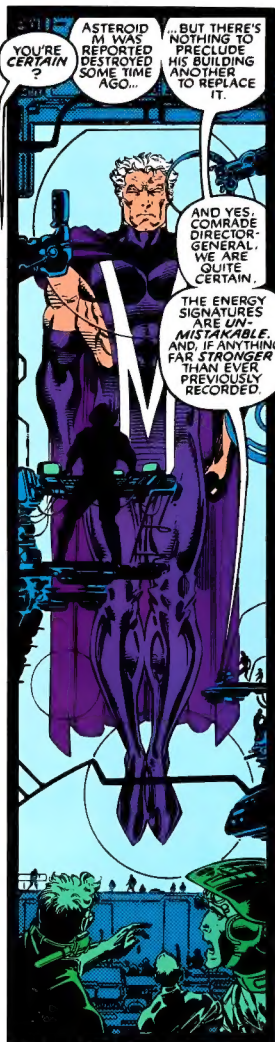
--THE SOVIET
EQUIVALENT OF
CAPE CANAVERAL
AND THE HOUSTON
MANNED SPACE
CENTER, ALL
ROLLED INTO ONE...

A FAST-
REACTION
PURSUIT FORCE,
AFTER A
HIJACKED
SHUTTLE.

BUT THAT ISN'T
WHY I SUMMONED
YOU, COMRADE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

IT'S THE
POWER THAT
DESTROYED
THEM!

AMERICANS,
SASHA...



FORTY MILES NORTH OF NEW YORK CITY, JUST OUT OF THE CONNECTICUT BORDER, A COUPLE OF MILES DOWN OBERLIN LANE FROM THE TOWN OF SALEM CENTER

ON THE GROUNDS OF AN ESTATE THAT PREDATES THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR, WHEN TWO COULD STILL BE CALLED "INDIAN COUNTRY"...

STANDS PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS

A VERY SPECIAL SCHOOL

FOR VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE

BETTER KNOWN TO THE WORLD AT LARGE AS THE X-MEN

PART OF WHAT MAKES THEM SPECIAL IS THAT THEY'RE MUTANTS...

BORN WITH ABNORMAL ABILITIES THAT SET THEM APART FROM THE GENERAL RUN OF HUMANITY

AND PART IS WHAT THEY CHOOSE TO DO WITH THOSE POWERS

ASSAULT GROUP "A" ON-SCREEN, CYCLOPS...

...CONSISTING OF ROGUE, CEMAN, ARCHANGEL AND COLOSSUS

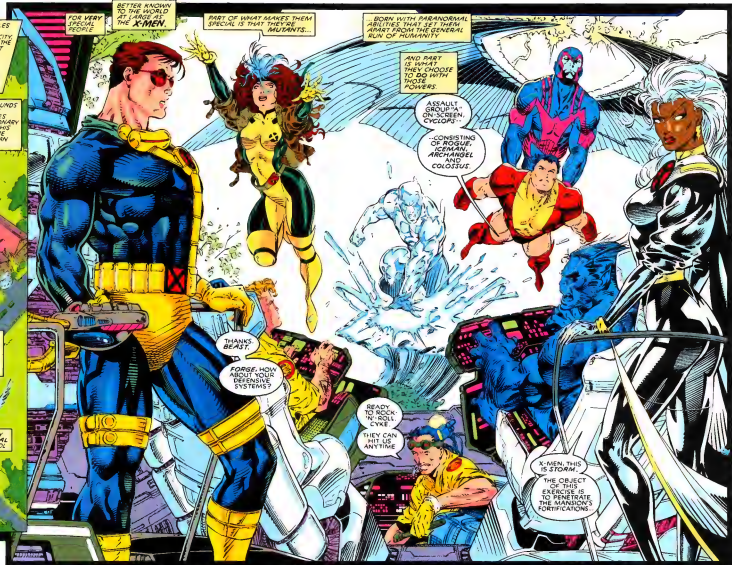
THANKS, BEAST.

FORGE, HOW ABOUT YOUR DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS?

READY TO ROCK, CYCLOPS! THEY CAN HIT US ANYTIME

X-MEN, THIS IS STORM.

THE OBJECT OF THIS EXERCISE IS TO PENETRATE THE MANDRILL'S FORTIFICATIONS



"...AND THEN LOCATE-- AND 'CAPTURE'-- PROFESSOR X."

JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.

WHAT IS THE SAYING, JEAN-- "PLUS ÇE CHANGE, PLUS ÇE MÈME CHOSE?"

"THE MORE THINGS CHANGE, THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME."

SO MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE I WAS LAST IN THIS MANSION, AND TAKING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE X-MEN--INCLUDING MYSELF--

--IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH WE WERE ALL COMING TOGETHER...

...FOR THE FIRST TIME.

AND, ULTIMATELY, WHERE WE GO FROM HERE.

ALL OUR WORK, OUR EFFORTS--

--I KEPT HOPING THE WORLD WOULD RESPOND BY BECOMING A GENTLER, MORE TOLERANT PLACE...

...WITH BRIDGES BUILT BETWEEN HUMANITY AND ITS MUTANT OFFSPRING.

INSTEAD, WE SEEM TO BE AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS, NOW MORE THAN EVER.

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US SHARPENED TO A KILLING EDGE.

WITH SOME OF THE CHILDREN ENTRUSTED TO MY CARE BURIED.

I KEEP WONDERING, HAD I NEVER LEFT, COULD I HAVE SOMEHOW PREVENTED THIS FROM HAPPENING.

YOU DID WHAT YOU THOUGHT BEST, CHARLES...

...AS DID WE.

NOW, WE PICK UP THE PIECES.

GIVE IT ANOTHER TRY.

I HAVE BEEN AWAY SO LONG, JEAN.

I LOOK AT THE WORLD, AND CANNOT HELP WONDERING...

IF IT DIDN'T...

...WE WOULDN'T BE HERE.

...IF MY DREAM HAS ANY VALIDITY ANYMORE



HEADS UP,
POPSICLE!

MISSILES
COMIN' AT US,
FROM ALL
AROUND THE
CLOCK!

Awww,
CRIPES!

ROGUE, THEY'RE
INCENDIARIES.
MELTING MY ICE-
SLIDE AS WELL
AS SMASHING IT!

I CAN'T
GENERATE A
NEW ONE!

HANG
LOOSE,
SUGAH--

...LEMME
HANDLE
THIS

HUNTER
SYSTEMS
LOCKIN' ON MY
BIO-SIGNATURE,
JUS' LIKE AH
FIGURED

WHICH
MEANS THEY'LL
FOLLOW ME
WHEREVER
AH RUN.

SIMPLEST
SOLUTION IS TO
BOOGIE AT TOP
SPEED, FASTER'N
THEY CAN CATCH
ME, 'TIL THE POOR
DEARS RUN OUT
O' GAS.

AH LIKE
THIS IDEA
BETTER.

AH CALL IT,
"RETURN T'
SENDER!"

BYE-BYE
MISSILES.
BYE-BYE
LAUNCHERS.

AH DO SO LOVE IT WHEN
A PLAY COMES T'GETHER!

BUT
THAT'D TAKE
ME OUT O'
THE FIGHT AS
WELL.

ROGUE'S
CLEARED
US A PATH,
COLOSSUS.

TIME TO
DELIVER THE
PAY-OFF!

HAVE NO FEAR,
ARCHANGEL.

I WILL
DO WHAT
MUST BE
DONE.

FOR WHAT
IT'S WORTH,
O FEARLESS
LEADER--

--GIVEN
ARCH-
ANGEL'S
SPEED AND
COLOSSUS'
MASS--

"--OUR ARMORED RUSSIAN
COMRADE WOULD MAKE A
FAIRLY IMPRESSIVE
WRECKING BALL."

"PROBABLY
DEMOLISH
THE MANSION,
ALL BY
HIMSELF."

"THAT'S A
PHYSICAL
POWER, HANK."

"HOW'S THAT
GOING TO
HELP HIM."

"...AGAINST
JEAN'S PSYCHIC--
TELEPATHIC--
ATTACK?"



I'VE
READIN'S
NOW,
BOYO, ON
ASSAULT
"BRAVO"...

...A
SOLID
LOCK
ON...

...PSYLOCKE...

...WOLVERINE...

...AN'
GAMBIT.

"A" TOOK THE
"HIGH ROAD";
THIS LOT'S
COMIN' IN LOW.



SLIPPED
THROUGH
THE FIRST ARC
OF SENSORS,
TOO. MAKE
A NOTE
BANSHEE.

IN THE
MEANWHILE,
SUCH A
SERIOUS
EFFORT...

...DESERVES
AN
EQUIVALENT
RESPONSE.



YOUR
PARDON,
MES
BRAVES...

...BUT I THINK
WE BEEN
SPOTTED,
YES?



SO DON'T
JUST
STAND
THERE
LOOKIN'
PRETTY,
CAJUN...

...ACE THESE
SUCKERS!

I FEAR, MY
FRIEND...

...YOUR
ADMONITION
IS A WASTE
OF BREATH.

AWFULLY
CONSIDER-
ATE OF
CYCLOPS,
DON'T YOU
THINK...

...TO FACE US
WITH OPPOSITION
THAT EVEN MY
PHYSICAL STRENGTH
IS CAPABLE OF
DISABLING.

MAN'S
ALL HEART,
BETTS.

AS MUCH
AS GAMBIT
IS BRASS.

WE'RE S'POSED
T' BE WORKIN'
T'GETHER, AS A
TEAM!

BUT WHAT
THE HECK...

...MAN
WANTS
TO PLAY
LONE-
WOLF...

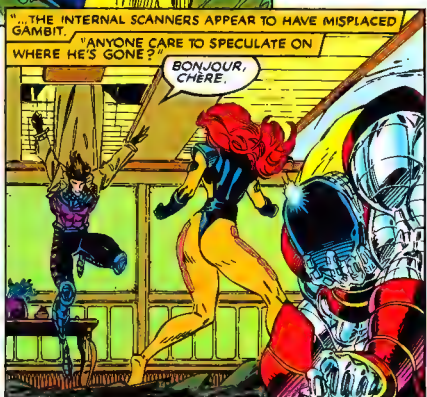


"... HE CAN TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES."

ROGUE EVADED THE
FIRST WAVE OF MISSILES,
O FEARLESS, AND TOOK
OUT THEIR LAUNCHERS...

...BUT NOT
THE SECOND.
SHE'S DOWN
AND OUT.

POSITIVE
TRACK STILL ON
WOLVERINE AND
PSYLOCKE, HOWEVER...



"...THE INTERNAL SCANNERS APPEAR TO HAVE MISPLACED
GAMBIT. "ANYONE CARE TO SPECULATE ON
WHERE HE'S GONE?"

BONJOUR,
CHÈRE.





AS I ALWAYS
SUSPECTED...

...REDHEADS, THEY
HAVE A DYNAMITE
KISS.

AT YOUR
OWN
RISK, MY
FRIEND.

I MUST CONFESS,
INFURIATING AND
ARROGANT AS
GAMBIT CAN BE...

...THOSE EYES, THAT
GRIN, THE BODY... IT
TAKES A GIRL'S
BREATH AWAY.

Oh,
REALLY?

WHEN NEXT THE
OPPORTUNITY PRE-
SENTS ITSELF...

...REMAND
ME TO DROP
A TRUCK
ON HIM.

CYCLOPS.

A BIG
TRUCK.

CYCLOPS!

A REALLY
BIG
TRUCK.

CYCLOPS!



NOT TO WORRY,
PROFESSOR.

WHILE YOU
WERE AWAY,
OL' FEARLESS
HERE
MASTERED
THE ART...

...OF
DEADPAN
HUMOR.

KEEP CALLING
ME THAT,
FURBALL...

...I'LL SHOW YOU
"DEADPAN."

BANTER
NOTWITH-
STANDING,
X-MEN...

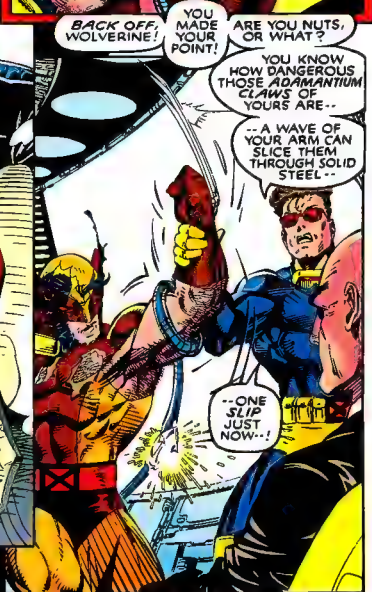
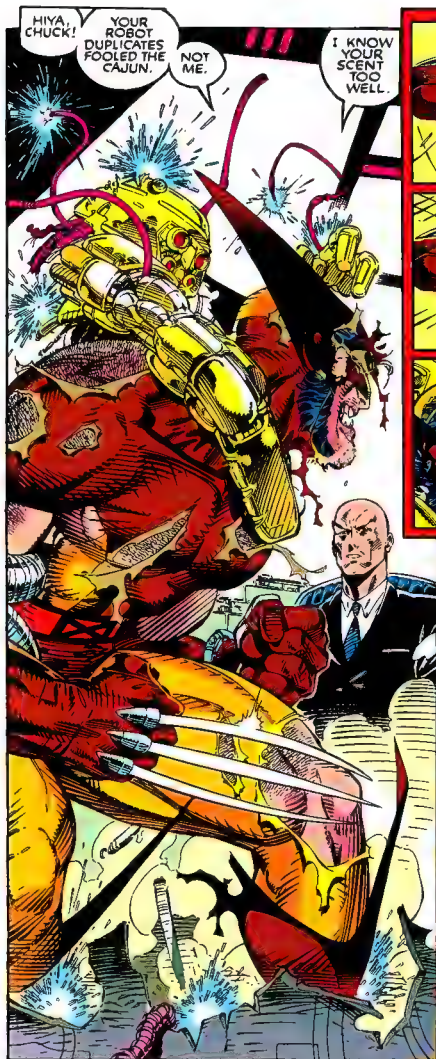


...MIGHT I
REMAND
YOU ALL...

...THAT THE
EXERCISE IS
FAR FROM...

...OVER!

SLAK!





I DON'T "SLIP", BUB.
EXERCISE WAS TO "TAG" THE PROF. THAT'S JUST WHAT I DID. YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT?

EVEN USED SOME TEAMWORK TO DO IT. WHILE YOU WERE ALL WATCHIN' GAMBIT MAKE A MODERATE FOOL OF HIMSELF...



...PSYLOCKE WAS ABLE TO USE HER PSI-POWERS TO MASK ME FROM JEAN'S...

...LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO DO THE JOB.

MAN, I USED TO THINK THE ORIGINAL DANGER ROOM WAS IMPRESSIVE.

NO COMPARISON, WINGS. THIS IS STATE OF THE ART.

IT'LL REPLICATE ANY ENVIRONMENT AND SITUATION WE CAN IMAGINE.

IN A LOT OF WAYS, AN ILLUSION MORE REAL THAN LIFE ITSELF.

ME. I WOULDN'T MIND SOME REAL LIFE FOR A CHANGE. I MEAN, WE'VE BEEN BUSTING OUR BUTTS FOR DAYS!

"WHEN'S IT GOING TO END?"

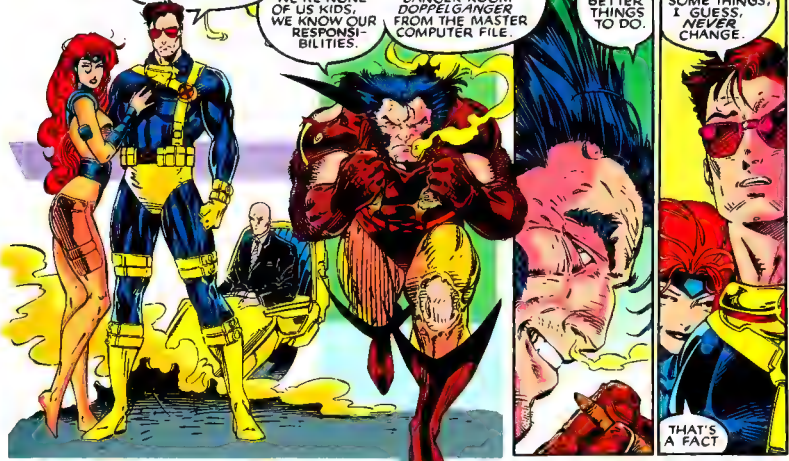
WHEN WE GET IT RIGHT, ICEMAN.
THE WORLD'S CHANGED. PEOPLE. THE STAKES ARE HIGHER, THE DANGERS GREATER. WE HAVE TO BE EQUAL TO THEM.

SAVE THE SPEECH, SUMMERS. WE'RE NONE OF US KIDS. WE KNOW OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

YOU WANT TO RUN MORE SCENARIOS. CALL UP MY DANGER ROOM DOPPELGÄNGER FROM THE MASTER COMPUTER FILE.

ME. I GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO.

THAT IDIOT--! SOME THINGS, I GUESS, NEVER CHANGE.



THAT'S A FACT

LATER...

...ASTEROID M IS STILL CLOAKED BUT WE THINK IT'S STILL HOLDING ORBIT OVER THE EURASIAN HEMISPHERE.

SOVIETS AIN'T AT ALL HAPPY ABOUT THAT. THEY'VE PLEDGED NOT TO ACT UNLESS PROVOKED...

...BUT THEY'RE ON A HAIR-TRIGGER THRESHOLD

WHY?

WHAT'S HE DONE?!

A FIGHT STARTED ON HIS DOORSTEP. HE PUT A STOP TO IT. FAR AS ANYONE KNOWS, ALL THE SURVIVORS ARE PRETTY MUCH OKAY.

WAY YOU TALK, NICHOLAS. FOLKS EXPECT HIM TO START NUKIN' MAMA RUSSIA ANY MOMENT.

THERE'S PRECEDENT FOR THEIR CONCERN, ROGUE

AND FOR GIVING HIM THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT, SCOTT. REMEMBER, HE WAS OUR ALLY.

AND BEFORE THAT, STORM, THE X-MEN'S OLDEST, DEADLIEST FOE. LEOPARDS DON'T CHANGE THEIR SPOTS.

NO FOOLIN'? AN' THERE, I THOUGHT ALL THIS TIME MAGNETO WAS A MAN.

WE'VE ALL GOT SHADOWS IN OUR PAST...

...WE'VE ALL BEEN BRANDED OUTLAWS.

THE ONE INDISPUTABLE REALITY, WOLVERINE, IS THE POWER MAGNETO POSSESSES. WHETHER USED FOR GOOD OR ILL, IT MUST BE RESPECTED.

AND WHILE I HOPE FERVENTLY FOR THE ONE...

...WE MUST BE FULLY PREPARED TO CONFRONT THE OTHER.

I ACCEPT YOUR PROPOSAL, CYCLOPS, TO SPLIT THE X-MEN INTO TWO STRIKE TEAMS.

THAT WILL ALLOW US A GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN OUR RESPONSE TO ANY GIVEN SITUATION.

IN THE MEANWHILE, COLONEL FURY, WE WILL SEARCH OUR FILES FOR ANY DATA ON MAGNETO THAT MIGHT PROVE HELPFUL SHOULD YOU NEED FURTHER ASSISTANCE...

I KNOW THE NUMBER.

KEEP OUR FINGERS CROSSED...

"...MAYBE
I WON'T
NEED TO
USE IT"

WHERE THE
DEVIL...?!

ASTEROID M, DEKE,
HAS TO BE!

WHEN MAGNETO
SMASHED OUR
SHUTTLE, HE MUST'VE
BROUGHT US ABOARD!

A MORE
GENEROUS--
FOOLISH
GESTURE--

...THAN ANY
OF
UPROCK!

THOSE WERE GOOD
PEOPLE YOU KILLED
ON MY WINGSHIP,
MUTIE...

...AND GOOD
ONES YOU KILLED
ON THE GROUND
WHEN YOU STOLE
THAT SHUTTLE

WHATEVER
IT TAKES, I'LL
SEE YOU PAY
FOR THAT!

UNLIKELY,
FLATSCAN,
ONCE I--

...MY
POWER?!

NOTHING'S
HAPPENING?!?

NOW AIN'T THAT
A CRYIN' SHAME!

I GOT
HER,
HARRY!

BIG MAN MUST'VE
ESTABLISHED AN
INHIBITOR FIELD,
TO NEUTRALIZE ANY
SUPER-BEINGS OR
MUTANTS WHO
COME CALLING.

PROBABLY
DOES THE
SAME TO
STANDARD
COMBAT
ARMOR.

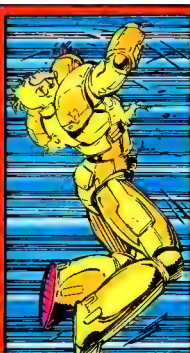
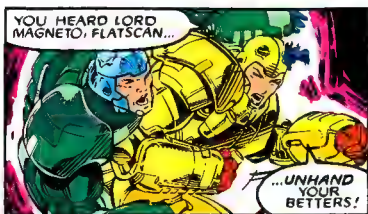
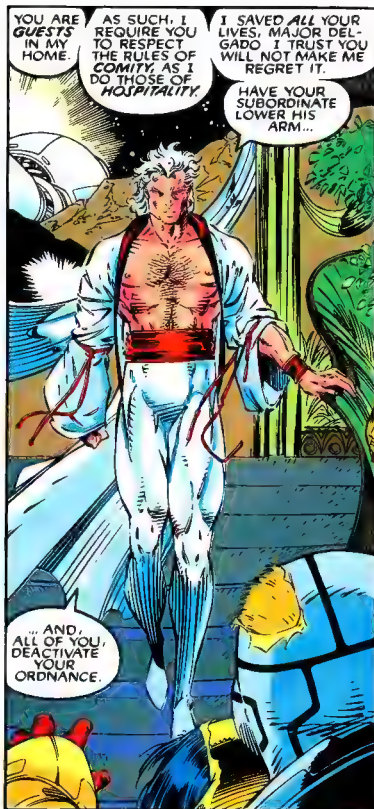
UNFORTUNATELY,
OUR SUITS WERE
DESIGNED WITH
PRECISELY THAT
LIKELIHOOD
IN MIND.

THE WEAPONS
SYSTEMS, AS YOU
CAN SEE, ARE
QUITE ACTIVE.

EVERYBODY RELAX,
EVERYBODY BEHAVE.

THE
SITUATION'S
UNDER
CONTROL.

WHAT IS THE
MEANING
OF THIS?!





I WARNED YOU!

YOUR MECHANISMS ARE QUITE IMPRESSIVELY SHIELDED, THAT IS TRUE.

BUT I AM THE MASTER OF MAGNETISM.

I DRAW ON THE PRIMAL FORCES OF THE EARTH ITSELF.

IT IS CHILD'S-PLAY TO SUBVERT YOUR POWER SUIT'S ELECTRONICS...

...AND BEND ITS SYSTEMRY TO MY WILL.

I'M SORRY, MAGNETO. THIS SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED.

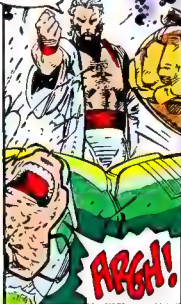
TOO LATE, FLATSCAN. FOR WEASELY WORDS TO SAVE YOU.



M-MY ARM-- MY GUN--!

I CAN'T STOP IT!

HARRY-- NANCE-- HELP ME!



ARGH!

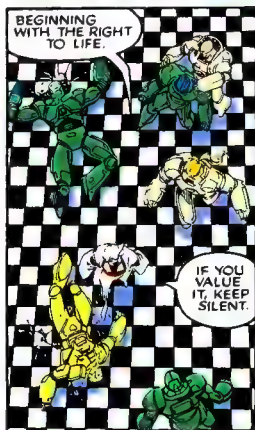


OFFICERS, MAJOR, OF NO LAW I RECOGNIZE AND THE RIGHTS YOU POSSESS HERE ARE THOSE...

...I CHOOSE TO GIVE YOU.



WE ARE OFFICERS OF THE LAW. WE HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO PURSUE AND APPREHEND THESE CRIMINALS.



BEGINNING WITH THE RIGHT TO LIFE.

IF YOU VALUE IT, KEEP SILENT.



DREAD LORD, I AM FABIAN CORTEZ.

FORGIVE MY INTRUSION, I SHARE YOUR GRIEF. ANNEMARIE WAS A VALUED COMRADE...

...BUT YOU MUST KNOW THE GREAT POWERS BELOW WILL OF A CERTAINTY REACT TO WHAT HAS HAPPENED HERE.

THEY WILL DO SO TO THEIR REGRET.



LORD, WE KNOW YOUR STRENGTH IS A MATCH FOR ANY POWERS THEY MARSHAL AGAINST YOU, BUT ALL THEY WILL SEE IS A LONE MAN.

FOR DETERANCE TO BE CREDIBLE...

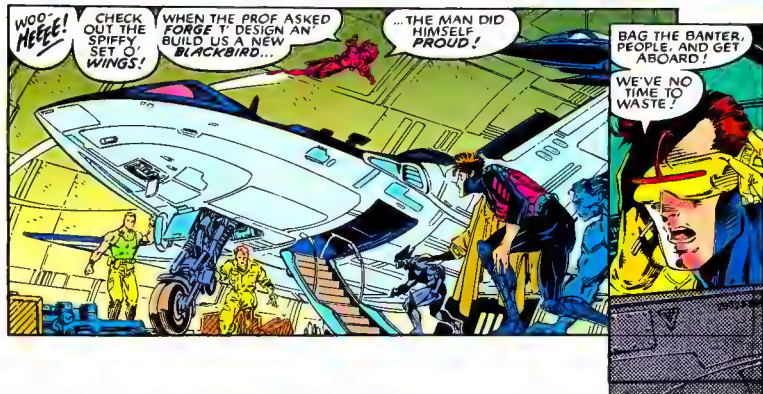
IT MUST BE COUCHED IN TERMS THOSE FLATSCANS UNDERSTAND.



"FLATSCANS"?

THOSE GENETIC DEAD ENDS UNBLESSED WITH OUR MUTANT ABILITIES

WHAT... "TERMS" CORTEZ, DO YOU SUGGEST?



"PROF SAYS
SOMETHING
BIG IS
HAPPENING
IN MID-
ATLANTIC!"

MOMENTS AGO,
HE STOOD AT
THE BOTTOM OF
THE OCEAN...

LITERALLY MILES BENEATH ITS
SURFACE, IN A REALM OF AWFUL
DARKNESS AND ABYSSAL COLD,
AS ALIEN AND HOSTILE AS ANY
FOREIGN PLANET.

STOOD AND
STARED AT HIS
HANDIWORK

AND REMEMBERED...

... A DAY LONG PAST
WHEN, IN HIS ARRO-
GANCE, HE COMMANDED
THE GREAT POWERS
OF THE WORLD TO
DISARM THEIR
NUCLEAR ARSENALS

HIS GOAL WAS NOBLE, OR
SO HE THOUGHT, TO
REMOVE FOREVER FROM
ALL PEOPLE-- MUTANTS
AND BASELINE HUMANS--
THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR
ANNIHILATION.

THE GOVERNMENTS
HE CHALLENGED
DIDN'T SEE IT
THAT WAY.

HE DEFLECTED
THE ATTACK...

AND
THEN,
AS AN
OBJECT
LESSON...

THE SOVIET
UNION ORDERED
AN IMMEDIATE
COUNTER-STRIKE...

... FROM THE
FLEET
BALLISTIC
MISSILE
SUBMARINE
LENINGRAD.

... SANK THE
VESSEL THAT
LAUNCHED IT

WATER
PRESSURE
CRUSHED
THE SUB-
MARINE'S
HULL...

...BUT NOT SO THE
LAUNCH TUBES OF
CASE-HARDENED
STEEL.

SOME OF THE MISSILES
WERE DAMAGED, BUT A
SURPRISING NUMBER HE
DISCOVERS REMAIN INTACT

BEEN A
WHILE,
MAGNETO.

NEVER CALLED, NEVER
WROTE, AH WAS STARTIN'
T' FIGURE YOU'D
FORGOTTEN ALL 'BOUT
ME.

THAT'S NO
WAY FOR FRIENDS
TO ACT

HELLO,
ROGUE

YOU RAISE THIS
WRECK OUT OF THE
KINDNESS OF YOUR
HEART, MAGS--

--FIGURIN'
MAYBE T'
GIVE THESE
SAILOR BOYS
A DECENT
BURIAL--

--OR
WHAT?

THE
AMERICAN
PRESIDENT
CONSIDERS
HIMSELF A
PRUDENT
MAN...

...WHO PERHAPS
PRAYS FOR THE
BEST, BUT IS
ALWAYS READY
FOR THE
WORST.

I SUNK LENINGRAD AS
AN ACT OF SELF-DEFENSE.
WOLVERINE.

I RESURRECT
IT FOR THE SAME
REASON

WE DON'T
THREATEN
YOU,
MAGNETO;
NOBODY
DOES.

AND
NOW,
CHILD,
NOBODY
WILL

OR WHAT,
YOU GONNA
NUKE 'EM?

I AM NO DIFFERENT

THAT, CYCLOPS, IS QUITE CLOSE ENOUGH.

YOU MIGHT CONSIDER, HOWEVER, THAT WERE I THE CONSUMMATE VILLAIN YOU DEVOUTLY BELIEVE ME TO BE...

DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU.

GREAT!

I STAND CORRECT-ED!

NOW HOW ABOUT ONE OF YOUR PATENTED NIFTY MOVES...

...TO HELP US OUT OF THIS MESS!

...I WOULD DESTROY YOUR PRETTY NEW AIRCRAFT...

... INSTEAD OF SIMPLY FREEZING IT IN PLACE!

AS EVER, FEARLESS, YOUR WISH...!

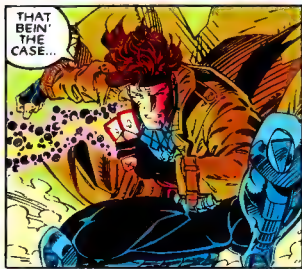
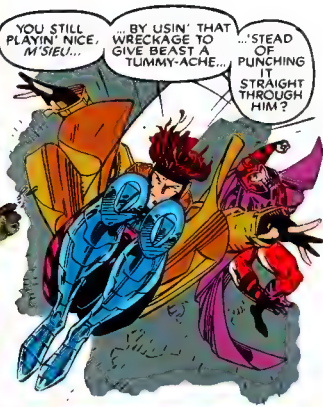
STICK WITH ME, GAMBIT, WATCH AND LEARN.

SNAPPY PATER, MON AMI, I CAN PROVIDE BY MYSELF.

WORDS ARE BUT THE ACCENTS TO ACTION--

--WHICH, IN THIS CASE, CONSISTS OF DISTRACTING OUR FOE SUFFICIENTLY...

...FOR OUR BLACKBIRD TO SLIP FREE OF HIS MAGNETIC FORCE BUBBLE





GOT HIM!

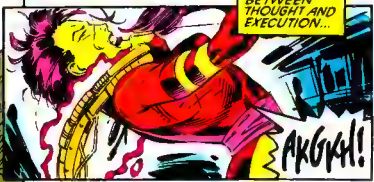
BLAST! HIS COSTUME IS A FORM OF BODY ARMOR-- THAT, COMBINED WITH HIS HELMET...

...BLUNTED THE FORCE OF MY ATTACK!



I'VE MANIFESTED MY PSYCHIC KNIFE-- THE FOCUSED TOTALITY OF MY TELEPATHIC ABILITIES--

-- ONE STRIKE SHOULD RENDER MAGNETO INSENSIBLE--!



BUT, IN THE SPIT-SECOND BETWEEN THOUGHT AND EXECUTION...

ARGGH!



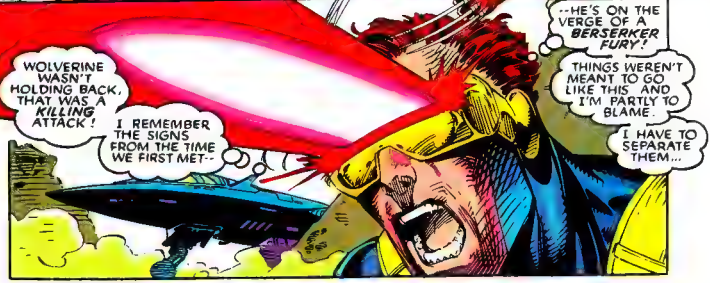
HAVE YOU X-MEN ALL GONE MAD?!

I SAID I MEANT YOU NO HARM, WHY DO YOU ASSAULT ME--

--GOOD LORD!

MAYBE 'CAUSE THE WORDS DON'T MATTER...

AS MUCH AS THE HEART AN' SOUL OF THE PERSON SPEAKIN' 'EM!



WOLVERINE WASN'T HOLDING BACK, THAT WAS A KILLING ATTACK!

I REMEMBER THE SIGNS FROM THE TIME WE FIRST MET--

--HE'S ON THE VERGE OF A **BERSERKER FURY!**

THINGS WEREN'T MEANT TO GO LIKE THIS AND I'M PARTLY TO BLAME.

I HAVE TO SEPARATE THEM...

"... BEFORE
THINGS
GET ANY
MORE
OUT OF
HAND!"

SO! OUR COMRADESHIP
MEANS NOTHING--

--BY THE
ETERNAL!?!

THE SUB-
MARINE--

--ITS
CREW
--!

SOME DIED IN A
BLINDING INSTANT, AS
THE HULL COLLAPSED
AND THE SEA RUSHED IN
TO CLAIM THEIR LIVES.

OTHERS, IN THE COMPART-
MENTS WHICH DIDN'T
RUPTURE...

...FACED THE SLOWER
OBLIVION OF
ASPHYXIATION.

ALL THIS TIME, HE'D
THOUGHT ABOUT THEM
IN ABSTRACT PAWNS
INSTEAD OF MEN.

NOW THOUGH, AT LAST, HE
FINDS HIMSELF FACE TO
FACE WITH THE CONSE-
QUENCE OF HIS ACTS.

AND HE REMEMBERS
ANOTHER TIME, OTHER
BODIES. BONES STILL
COATED WITH THE
FLESH OF FAMILY AND
FRIENDS, TOSSED INTO
A LIME-SOAKED PIT
AND HIM ALONG WITH
THEM, ONLY HE WAS
STILL ALIVE.

SOMEHOW,
HE CLAWED
HIS WAY TO
THE
SURFACE.

HIS WILL TO SURVIVE
AS INDOMITABLE
THEN AS NOW.

YOU
CHOOSE TO
SEE ME
SOLELY AS
THE MAN
I WAS.

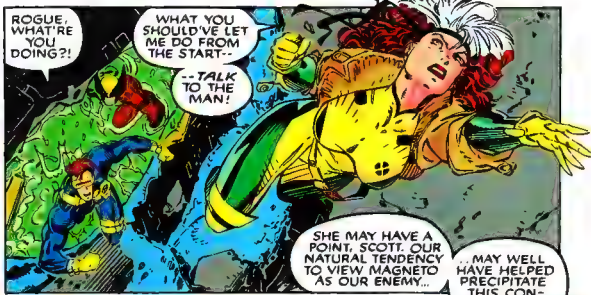
IS THAT
THEN
WHAT
I AM?!

STAY
AWAY!



IF YOU
VALUE
YOUR
LIVES,
X-MEN--

--LEAVE
ME BE!



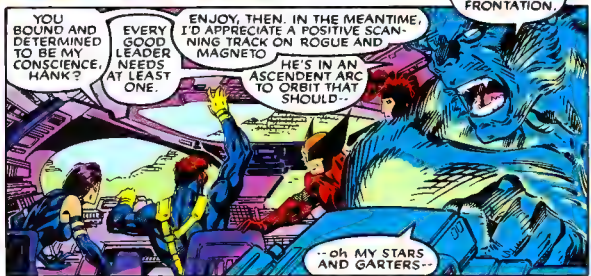
ROGUE,
WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING?!

WHAT YOU
SHOULD'VE LET
ME DO FROM
THE START--

--TALK
TO THE
MAN!

SHE MAY HAVE A
POINT, SCOTT. OUR
NATURAL TENDENCY
TO VIEW MAGNETO
AS OUR ENEMY...

...MAY WELL
HAVE HELPED
PRECIPITATE
THIS CON-
FRONTATION.



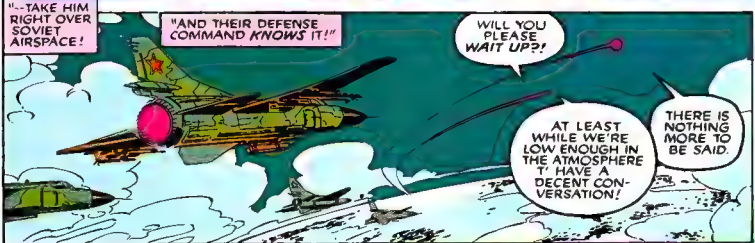
YOU
BOUND AND
DETERMINED
TO BE MY
CONSCIENCE,
HANK?

EVERY GOOD
LEADER
NEEDS AT
LEAST ONE.

ENJOY, THEN. IN THE MEANTIME,
I'D APPRECIATE A POSITIVE SCAN-
NING TRACK ON ROGUE AND
MAGNETO

HE'S IN AN
ASCENDANT ARC
TO ORBIT THAT
SHOULD--

--oh MY STARS
AND GARTERS--



"--TAKE HIM
RIGHT OVER
SOVIET
AIRSPACE!"

"AND THEIR DEFENSE
COMMAND KNOWS IT!"

WILL YOU
PLEASE
WAIT UP?!

AT LEAST
WHILE WE'RE
LOW ENOUGH IN
THE ATMOSPHERE
I HAVE A
DECENT CON-
VERSATION!

THERE IS
NOTHING
MORE TO
BE SAID.



GET
REAL!

WHAT, YOU NEVER
MADE A MISTAKE IN
YOUR LIFE? YOU
NEVER COMMITTED
AN ACT THAT MIGHT
SOMEHOW BE MIS-
INTERPRETED?

MAYBE CYKE HANDLED
THINGS WRONG

MAYBE SEEN'
YOU ABOUT TO
HAUL OFF A
CARGO OF NUKES
GAVE HIM
CAUSE!

DON'T YOU
SEE?!
YOU'VE GOT
EV'RYBODY
SPOOKED!

MAGNETO. MOSTLY FOLKS KNOW YOU AS THE WORLD-CLASS MUTIE TERRORIST. YOU'RE THE **BOOGIE-MAN** THAT'S USED TO FRIGHTEN PEOPLE ABOUT US.

BY ACTIN' THE WAY YOU ARE NOW...

...YOU'RE PROVIN' EM RIGHT!

I TRIED TO CHANGE, AND PAID FOR THAT. I DID MY BEST TO FOLLOW XAVIER'S PATH TO A PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE BETWEEN *HOMO SAPIENS* AND *HOMO SAPIENS SUPERIOR*. FOLLY. WITH THE BLOOD OF INNOCENTS.

"SO YOU FIGURE, WHAT, THERE'S NOTHIN' GOOD CAN COME O' THIS, AH MIGHT AS WELL **GIVE UP?**"

YOU EVER CONSIDER, MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY A LITTLE HA

ARRGH! ROGUE!

THERE IS YOUR ANSWER, CHILD, AND MINE!

WHATEVER WE DECIDE, THE WORLD WILL NEVER ACCEPT US.

THEY MEAN ONLY OUR **DESTRUCTION**, AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS A **SPECIES!**

BUT AT LEAST HERE, I CAN SAVE ONE!

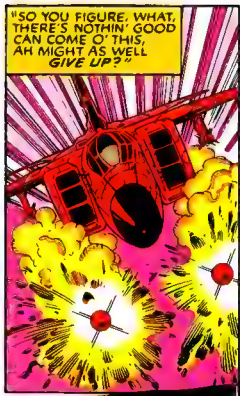
AN UPPER-ATMOSPHERE NUCLEAR DETONATION, AT LEAST A MEGATON IN YIELD.

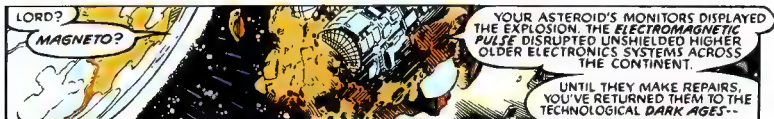
MAGNETO'S FIRED ONE OF THE MISSILES.

MY LORD DEAR LORD NO!

HANK, WHAT'S HAPPENING, WHAT'S THAT FLASH?

BUT-- WHAT ABOUT **ROGUE?!!**





LORD?

MAGNETO?

YOUR ASTEROID'S MONITORS DISPLAYED THE EXPLOSION. THE **ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE** DISRUPTED UNSHIELDED HIGHER-OLDER ELECTRONICS SYSTEMS ACROSS THE CONTINENT.

UNTIL THEY MAKE REPAIRS, YOU'VE RETURNED THEM TO THE TECHNOLOGICAL **DARK AGES**--



--LORD?!

MAGNETO--
YOU'RE
HURT!

WOLVERINE'S
CLAWS.

THAT
DEVIL!

I THOUGHT MY ARMOR PROOF AGAINST ANY ASSAULT. ON THE OTHER HAND, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IT PREVENTED THE X-MAN'S CLAWS FROM CUTTING DEEPER.

THERE WAS NO
HESITATION IN
HIM. NO...
MERCY.

HAD I NOT WITH-
DRAWN FROM THE
FIELD OF COMBAT,
HE WOULD NOT HAVE
STOPPED UNTIL ONE
OF US WAS SLAIN

WHY THEN HAS HE
TURNED ON ME?

WHAT HAS
CHANGED?!

WHY MUST
BLOOD
ALWAYS COME
BETWEEN ME
AND
OTHERS?

FROM CYCLOPS,
I EXPECTED THAT.
HE HAS NEVER
TRUSTED ME, AND
NEVER WILL

BUT
WOLVERINE...

I HAVE
FOUGHT BY HIS
SIDE. FOR THE
BRIEF TIME I
WORKED WITH THE
X-MEN, HE ACCEPTED
ME WHOLEHEARTEDLY
IF NOT AS A FRIEND,
THEN AT LEAST
AS A COMRADE-
IN-ARMS.



LOFF KAFF
GAGK
KOFF
KAFF

PERHAPS, LORD, BECAUSE THEY
KNOW THERE IS NOT ROOM IN
THE WORLD FOR YOUR
VISION AND THEIRS.

ONE CAN PREVAIL
SOLELY BY THE
TOTAL ELIMINATION
OF THE
OTHER.

WHAT,
CORTXZ, I
MUST
DESTROY
MY PEOPLE
IN ORDER
TO SAVE
THEM?

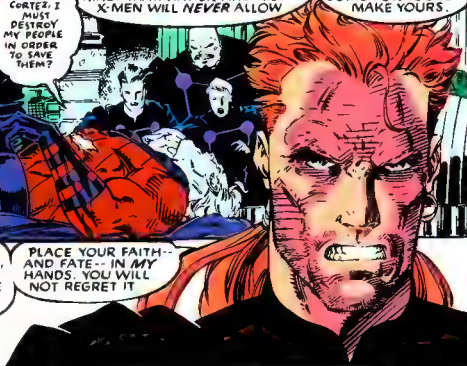
LORD, THE CHANGE YOU SPEAK OF
IS RESUMPTION OF YOUR TRUE
DESTINY AS **LEADER** OF MUTANT-
KIND. THAT, XAVIER AND HIS
X-MEN WILL **NEVER** ALLOW

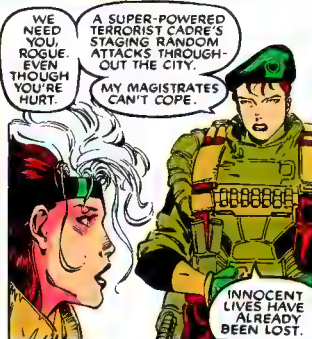
THEY HAVE MADE
THEIR CHOICE. SOON,
THE TIME WILL
COME FOR YOU TO
MAKE YOURS.

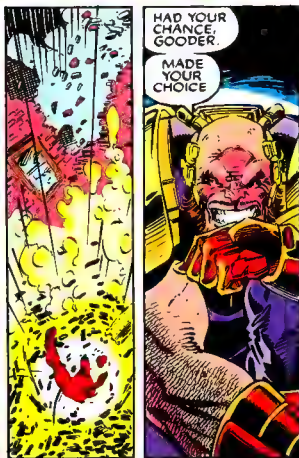
UNTIL
THEN,
LORD,
REST.

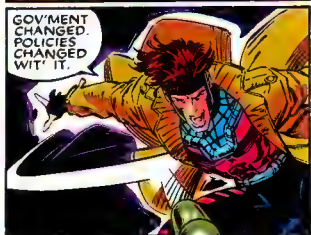
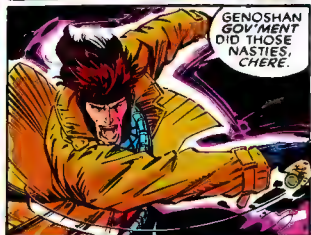
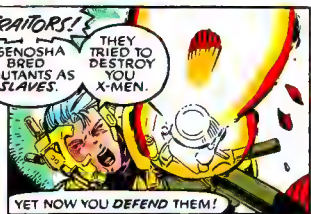
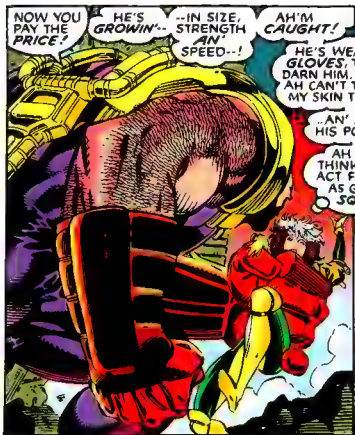
LET MY HUMBLE
POWERS **HEAL** YOU.
AS THEY HAVE MY
SISTER FROM THE
SHIELD AGENT'S
WEAPON.

PLACE YOUR FAITH--
AND FATE-- IN MY
HANDS. YOU WILL
NOT REGRET IT











B'SIDES, WAY WE HEAR Y'U TALKIN' T' ROGUE...

...DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU MUCH BETTER.

WE STAND FOR THE ONLY CAUSE WHICH GIVES OUR PEOPLE A DECENT HOPE OF SURVIVAL. X-MAN--

-- THAT OF **MUTANT SUPREMACY!**

WE ARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF HUMANITY, AND WE WILL NOT BE CHEATED OF OUR RIGHTFUL INHERITANCE!

I'VE ALTERED YOUR MOLECULAR STRUCTURE, DELGADO...

...TO MAKE IT VIRTUALLY AS DENSE AS ADAMANTIUM

FOR WHAT YOU LOSE IN SPEED AND AGILITY, YOU'LL MAKE UP FOR IN STRENGTH.



"DELGADO"? THERE WAS A MAJOR HARRY DELGADO COMMANDING THE SHIELD PURSUIT FORCE THAT WAS CAPTURED BY MAGNETO.

COINCIDENCE?

DIFFERENT GUY, SAME NAME.

OR MAYBE THE MAJOR WAS A SLEEPER, WORKIN' WITH THE CLOWNS HE WAS SUPPOSEDLY CHASIN'?

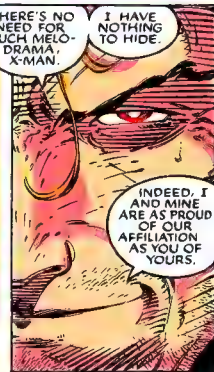
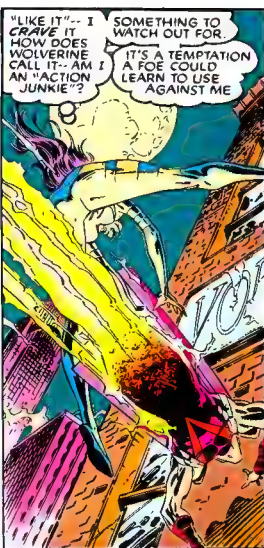
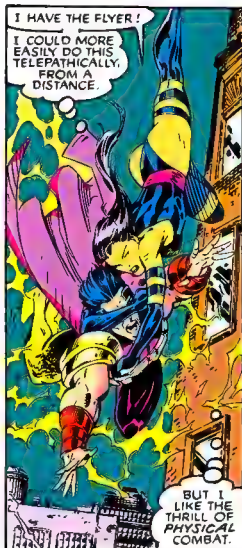
OR MAYBE HE SWITCHED SIDES.

OR MAYBE SOMEBODY MADE HIM.



HOWEVER THE MAN CAME HERE, BEAST, HE MEANS BUSINESS

WE CAN FIGURE OUT THE BACK-STORY AFTER WE TAKE HIM DOWN.



Gleeks!

MAGNETO!

ALTHOUGH THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED WITHOUT MY KNOWLEDGE OR PERMISSION, THESE ACCOUSES HAVE PLEDGED THEMSELVES TO MY CAUSE AND SERVICE

I SHALL NOT ABANDON THEM, ESPECIALLY FOR WHAT PASSES FOR JUSTICE IN A SLAVE STATE SUCH AS GENOSHA

WITH YOUR POWER, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD EASILY REPAIR THE DAMAGE THEY'VE DONE--

--BUT WHAT ABOUT THE LIVES THAT WERE LOST? HOW DO YOU PUT THAT RIGHT?

ONLY MAGISTRATES WERE SLAIN OR INJURED. I COULD SAY THAT IS MERELY JUST RETRIBUTION FOR THE HORRORS THEY INFLICTED UNTIL RECENTLY ON GENOSHA'S MUTANT CITIZENRY.

THEY ACTED IN AN EXCESS OF ZEAL, THAT IS WRONG. AND SINCE I ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ACTIONS, HOWEVER MISGUIDED, I SHALL DETERMINE THEIR APPROPRIATE PUNISHMENT.

WHAT WE GOT HERE, BUB, A NEW TWIST ON THE DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS?

YOU FIGURE SINCE YOU LIVE ABOVE THE WORLD, THAT PUTS YOU ABOVE ITS LAW AS WELL?

LAWS WRITTEN BY HUMANS FOR HUMANS, HOLDING AS OUT-OF-DATE AS THE RACE THAT CREATED THEM. A NEW GENERATION IS BEING BORN, AND WITH IT MUST COME A NEW WORLD ORDER

ALL MY LIFE, I HAVE SEEN PEOPLE SLAUGHTERED WHOLESALY FOR NO MORE REASON THAN THE DEITY THEY WORSHIPPED, OR THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN--OR THE PRESENCE IN THEIR DNA OF AN EXTRA, SPECIAL GENE

I CANNOT CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT CAN--AND WILL--ENSURE THAT MY RACE WILL NEVER AGAIN SUFFER FOR ITS FEAR AND PREJUDICE

HENCEFORTH, I DECLARE AUSTERDAM A SOVEREIGN WORLD, HOME AND HAVEN TO ALL MUTANT-KIND.

IF YOU ARE BORN HOMO SAPIENS SUPERIOR, THEN YOU ARE AUTOMATICALLY A CITIZEN, ENTITLED TO SAFE HAVEN ABOVE AND SECURITY BELOW.

EVEN YOU X-MEN--EVEN YOUR MENTOR, MY OLD FRIEND--CHARLES XAVIER--ARE WELCOME HERE

BUT MARK THIS AND MARK IT WELL--

...HARM DONE AGAINST ANY MUTANT IS HARM DONE TO ME

AND I SHALL RESPOND ACCORDINGLY

PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL

I DON'T THINK ANY OF THE GREAT POWERS ARE GOIN' T' SIT STILL FR SUCH AN ULTIMATUM. SOME IDIOT SOMEWHERE'S SURE T' CHALLENGE HIM. AN THEN, I FEAR, WE'LL SEE SOME FIREWORKS

SORRY T' INTRUDE, DR. MACMAGGART, MAM. BUT YE'VE BEEN CLOSETED DOWN IN YOUR LAB FO SO LONG, WITH-OUT WORD OR EVEN A BITE T' EAT, I WAS STARTIN' T' WORRY

MOIRA? WHAT AILS YOU, ACCUSHA? HAVE YE BEEN CRYIN'?

OH SEAN, FORGIVE ME

I DINNA KEN WHAT COULD'VE POSSESSED ME, LORD MY LORD. WHAT HAVE I DONE?!

THIS TERRIBLE THING THAT'S HAPPENING--

--BANSHEE, IT'S ALL MY FAULT!

NEXT:

FIRESTORM!



A VILLAINS
Gallery







**THINGS
TO
COME**

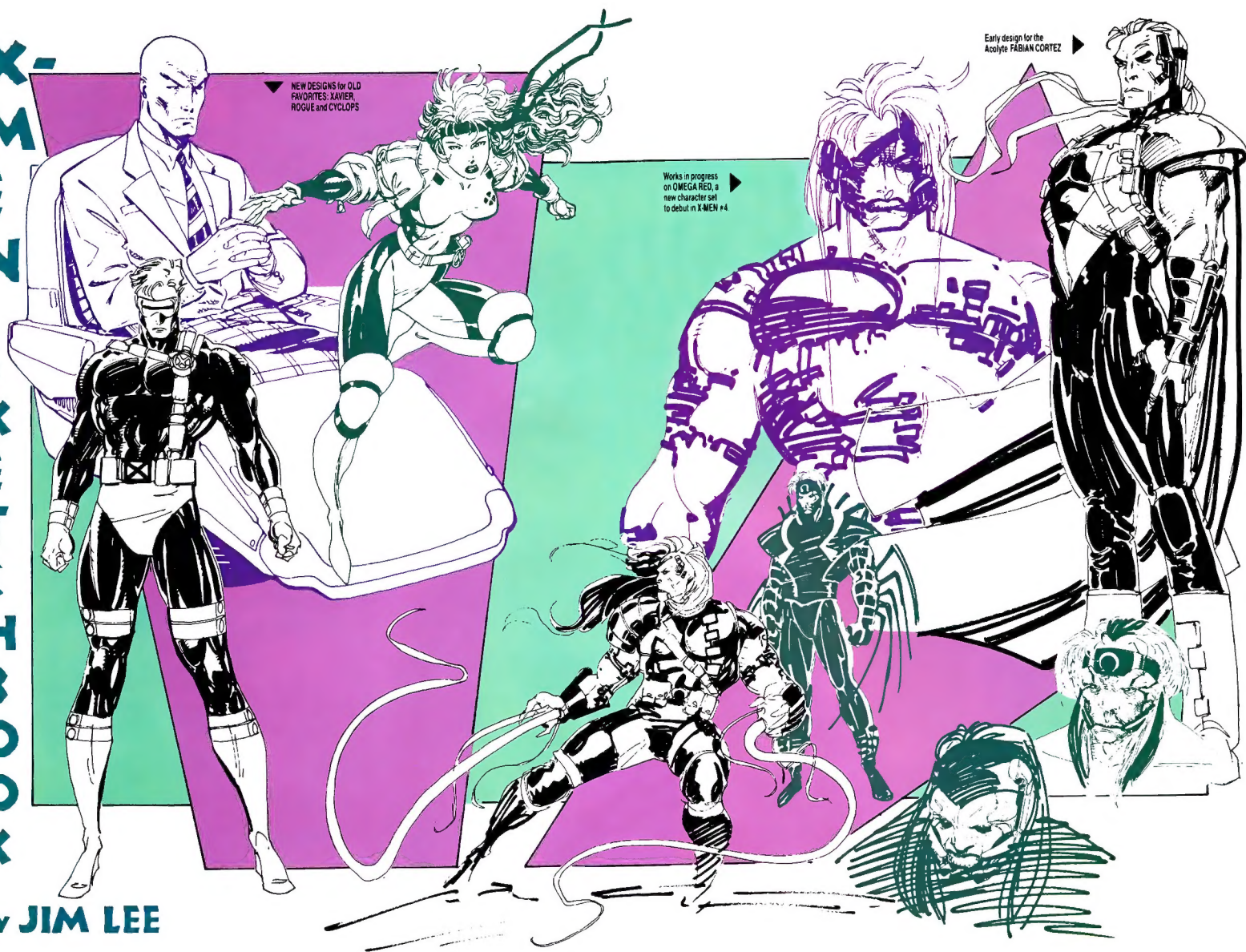
X-MEN SKETCHBOOK

BY JIM LEE

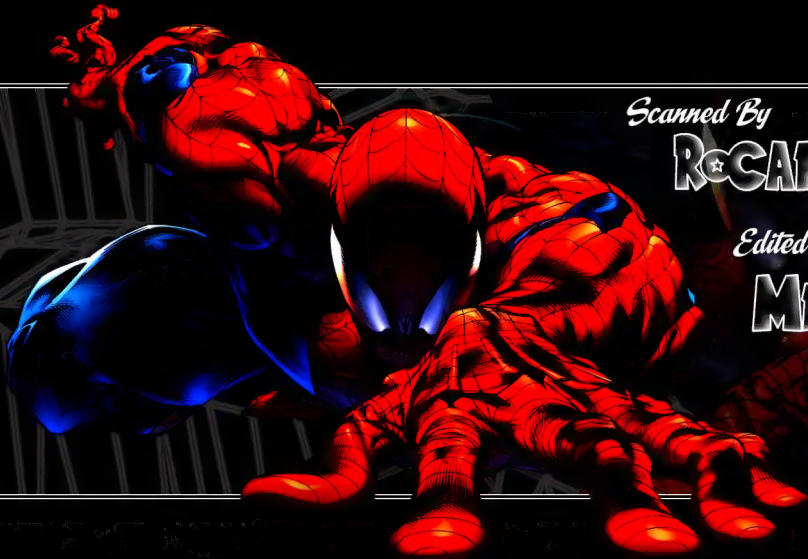
NEW DESIGNS for OLD
FAVORITES: XAVIER,
ROGUE and CYCLOPS

Works in progress
on OMEGA RED, a
new character set
to debut in X-MEN #4

Early design for the
Acolyte FABIAN CORTEZ







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**MINUTEMEN
SCANS**